

Answer to Scenario 2 – Tack in Front

Protest dismissed; neither boat breaks a rule. While P is on port tack she is required to keep clear of S under rule 10, On Opposite Tacks. While P is tacking, she is required to keep clear of S from the moment she passes head to wind until she reaches a close-hauled course under rule 13, While Tacking. A boat "keeps clear" if the right-of-way boat can sail her course with no need to take avoiding action (see the definition Keep Clear). S does not need to take any avoiding action before P reaches a close-hauled course.

When P reaches a close-hauled course, rule 13 ceases to apply and P is the right-of-way boat under rule 12, On the Same Tack, Not Overlapped. Because she acquired the right of way by her actions, P is required to give S room to keep clear of her under rule 15, Acquiring Right of Way. S is able to avoid P in a seamanlike way; therefore P complies with rule 15.

(From Dave Perry's 100 Best Rules Quizzes, Quiz 7. Used with permission.)